(d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Ministry of Railways have entered into an agreement with Rosa Power Supply Company Limited. Some of the main conditions of the agreement are:

Indian Railway to transport 2.7 million tonnes per annum of coal for 25 years.

The Company will pay to Railway 5% extra freight charges.

Indian Railway has granted irrevocably placement of rakes, transportation and delivery.

Railway and Company to pay penalties for non-fulfillment of obligations.

(b) to (d) No Sir, Requests for supply of adequate quantity of coal have been received from various power houses authorities including Ministry of Power and necessary action was taken by Railways to ameliorate crises of coal. Railways are keeping daily close watch on supply of coal to all power houses including power houses of NTPC to avoid closure of the power plants.

Thar Express

542. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the schedule of the Thar Express;and

(b) what steps are being taken to increase the number of passenger?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Thar Express is a weekly train. It runs once a week *i.e.* on every Saturday ex. Jodhpur/Munabao to Zero Point and return back from Zero Point to Munabao/Jodhpur on the same day.

(b) It caters only to through international passengers with valid travel documents. Instructions have been issued to make it fully reserved train.